Filed for intro on 02/16/2006 HOUSE BILL 3271 By Fitzhugh

SENATE BILL 3382 By Herron

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 40, Chapter 35 and Title 41, Chapter 21, Part 2, relative to sentence reduction credits.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 41-21-236, is amended by adding the following language as a new subsection:

(k) In addition to any other sentence credits provided by this section, an inmate shall be awarded thirty (30) days of sentence credits either by earning a general equivalency diploma (GED) while incarcerated or by satisfactory completion of a therapeutic community program while incarcerated. The commissioner is directed to establish criteria for the awarding of such credits. Such credits shall be awarded one (1) time per inmate without consideration of the number of educational or therapeutic programs such inmate has successfully completed; provided that inmates are encouraged to continue participation in educational and therapeutic programs throughout their course of incarceration.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006, the public welfare requiring it.